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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/763,572 | 02/26/2001 | Osamu Toyoda | 1082.1035 | 7883 |

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EXAMINER

TRUONG, BAO Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED: 06/12/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/763,572

Applicant(s)

TOYODA ET AL.

Examiner

Bao Q. Truong

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 February 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

3. Claims 1-4 and 7-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sano et al. [6,249,264].

Regarding claims 1, 7, 9 and 13, Sano et al. disclose a plasma device having a front substrate [11], a rear substrate [21], a plurality of barrier ribs [29], a plurality of second type barrier ribs [50], and a phosphor layer [28]. In which, a height (h) of the second type barrier rib [50] is smaller than a height (H) of the barrier rib [29] (figures 4 and 8, column 20, lines 31-57, column 25, lines 1-10 and column 26, lines 21-30).

Regarding claim 2, Sano et al. disclose a second type barrier rib [50] being across a barrier rib [29] (figure 4).

Regarding claims 3 and 4, Sano et al. disclose a transparent conductive film [41] and a strip metal film [42] on a front substrate [11] (figures 4 and 8).

Regarding claims 8 and 10, Sano et al. disclose a barrier rib [29] being formed of reflecting material (column 20, lines 58-60).

Regarding claims 11 and 12, Sano et al. disclose a phosphor layer [28] being formed between barrier ribs [29 and 50] (figures 4 and 8).

Regarding claims 14, 15, 18 and 19, Sano et al. disclose a method of forming barrier ribs on a substrate including a photosensitive member sandwiched, a photolithographic mask and a dry film resist material by exposure and development (figures 37-46, column 40 lines 25-67 and column 41 lines 1-25).

Regarding claims 16 and 20, Sano et al. disclose a dry film resist material and a sand blast step (figures 40-46, column 40 lines 56-64).

Regarding claim 17, Sano et al. disclose a forming barrier ribs [29 and 50] (column 40 lines 25-35).

Regarding claims 21 and 22, Sano et al. disclose a phosphor paste material being injected onto a surface portion of an adjacent barrier rib (column 45 lines 21-25).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2875

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sano et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of JP [6-275202].

Regarding claims 5 and 6, Sano et al. disclose a second type barrier rib [50] being perpendicular to a barrier rib [29]. Sano et al. do not disclose the second type barrier rib [50] being parallel to the barrier rib [29].

JP [6-275202] teaches a barrier rib [16] being parallel to a barrier rib [15] (figure 28) in a plasma display panel.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the barrier rib being parallel to other barrier member in order to provide an advantage of reflecting barrier structure.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Asano et al. [US 6,008,582] disclose a plasma device with partition walls.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bao Q. Truong whose telephone number is (703) 308-6452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra L. O'Shea can be reached on (703) 035-4939. The fax phone

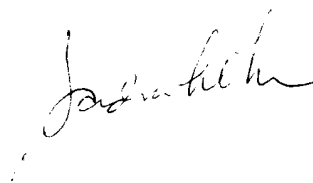
Art Unit: 2875

numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7725 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308 0956.

Bao Q. Truong
Examiner
Art Unit 2875

BQT
June 7, 2002

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Bao Q. Truong', is written over the typed name and title.